

REMARKS

Overview

Claims 1-5 and 8-51 are pending in the present application. A final rejection has been entered to those claims. The final rejection has been carefully considered and this response is concurrently filed with a Request for Continued Examination (RCE). Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1-5 and 8-51 continue to stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,219,930 ("Reid"). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

As understood, the crux of the sole rejection is that Reid does disclose the specific limitation in each of Applicant's independent claims 1, 14, 26 and 45 that "a cluster of high concentration of dents" is identified as a part of estimating the total cost of repair. The other input data to the estimate set forth in the claims is a characterization of a range of sizes of dents.

The final rejection takes the position that Reid's counting of dents within a "unit area" meets this limitation explicitly or inherently.

To the contrary, Applicant's specification (for example page 27) describes how the "cluster" is a highest concentration of dents. Absolutely nothing is seen in Reid which states that a highest concentration of dents is counted. In fact, as pointed out in Applicant's prior response, Reid instead picks out a "representative area" count dents. This is essentially opposite to what is called for in Applicant's claims. Applicant is looking for a "non-representative" area -- one with the highest concentration of dents.

Therefore, Reid actually teaches away from Applicant's claimed invention.

The specific absence of any teaching or disclosure of limitations of these claims of Applicant does not support a *prima facie* case of obviousness based on Reid. Therefore, it is respectfully requested that Applicant's claims be reconsidered in light of these comments.

With regard to Applicant's claim 51, there is absolutely no identified disclosure or teaching in Reid of the concept of a subscriber-based system for accessing group password according to a level of authorization. As described in Applicant's specification, this system allows for a variety of parties to use an internet based paperless dent repair estimation and compensation methodology. Insurance claims adjusters would have one level of authorization and access to information. Perhaps the insured's agent would have a different level of access and authorization. In complete absence of any teaching or suggestion of this claim precludes a *prima facie* case of obviousness based on Reid.

Conclusion

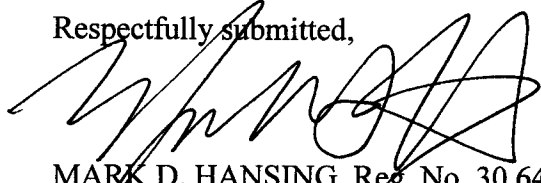
It is respectfully submitted that Applicant's claims are patentably distinct over Reid. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

This amendment accompanies the filing of a Request for Continued Examination (RCE). Please charge Deposit Account No. 26-0084 the amount of \$405.00 for the RCE per the attached transmittal.

This is a request under the provision of 37 CFR § 1.136(a) to extend the period for filing a response in the above-identified application for one month from October 10, 2007 to November 10, 2007. Applicant is a small entity; therefore, please charge Deposit Account number 26-0084 in the amount of \$60.00 to cover the cost of the one-month extension. Any deficiency or overpayment should be charged or credited to Deposit Account 26-0084.

No additional fees or extensions of time are believed to be due in connection with this amendment; however, consider this a request for any extension inadvertently omitted, and charge any additional fees to Deposit Account No. 26-0084.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mark D. Hansing', written over the typed name and address.

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